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2-22-1995

The Opinion Volume 35 Number 10 – February 22, 1995

The Opinion

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The Opinion, "The Opinion Volume 35 Number 10 – February 22, 1995" (1995). *The Opinion Newspaper (all issues)*. 320.

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Bringing the issues to the students since 1949

THE OPINION



Volume 35, No. 10

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF LAW

February 22, 1995

To speak or not to speak

Several protestors challenge Committee's decision to invite Vacco to speak at commencement

by Rosanna Berardi, Reporter

and Joseph Broadbent, Asst. News Editor

The Commencement Committee meeting that took place on Wednesday, Feb. 15 turned into a hostile shouting match over this year's keynote speaker, Attorney General Dennis C. Vacco.

Approximately 15 students, including representatives from the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Law Students (LGBLS), protested the Commencement Committee's selection when they learned of Vacco's recent decision to remove sexual orientation from a list of classes protected against discrimination in the Attorney General's office. The policy protecting homosexuals against hiring discrimination in the Attorney General's office was initially created and enforced by Vacco's predecessors, Robert Abrams and Oliver Koppell, and has remained in force for the past 15 years.

According to Chris McKenna, spokesman for the Attorney General's office, Vacco issued the order to remove sexual orientation from his office's anti-discrimination policy in order to conform with the state's Human Rights Law.



Attorney General Dennis Vacco

"He did not want to go beyond the state law to create new protected classes that haven't been recognized by the Legislature," McKenna said. "[Vacco said] it's not his role to add things to the law, but only to uphold existing laws."

McKenna added that Vacco said it's up to the Legislature to add sexual orientation to the list of protected classes. The state's Human Rights Law currently prohibits discrimi-

nation on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sex, disability or marital status.

The protestors expressed outrage by the Committee's alleged "private invitation" to Vacco. Members of the Commencement Committee defended their actions by stating that, traditionally, the keynote speaker, unlike the student and faculty speakers, is not decided by popular vote. Instead, the Commencement Committee is open to any third-year law student who wishes to participate in planning graduation activities.

Committee member Alan Rosenthal explained the chronology of the Committee's activities.

He said the SBA sent a notice around the second week of January that invited all third-year law students who wished to participate in the selection of the keynote speaker to join the Commencement Committee. A week later, those interested attended the first Committee meeting, according to Rosenthal.

The Committee then proceeded to narrow down the list of possible candidates for keynote speaker and ultimately decided to

invite Vacco, who accepted the invitation, said Rosenthal, 3L. It wasn't until Vacco issued his order to remove sexual orientation from his office's anti-discrimination policy that other students took interest in the Committee, he said.

According to Rosenthal, the Committee was charged with selecting a keynote speaker for this year's commencement. The Committee's other responsibilities included handling ticket policy, organizing student speaker nominations, choosing a faculty speaker, and arranging the reception following graduation.

Opponents of the Committee's decision requested that the Committee rescind the invitation to Attorney General Vacco. At that point, what started out as an organized committee meeting degenerated into a verbal war of insults and profanity.

Students routinely cut other students off and resorted to shouting to get their points across. Within minutes after one student was appointed to moderate the discussion, the shouting match resumed as students ignored the moderator and others who were patiently wait-

See **VACCO** on page 2

Power of the pen:

SBA launches letter campaign to fight SUNY budget cuts

by Steven Dietz, Reporter

The Student Bar Association Feb. 20 announced the initiation of a letter writing campaign against the proposed budget cuts to SUNY. The campaign was initiated by the SBA as part of the efforts of UB United, a university-wide student coalition, to fight the cuts.

"All law students have an interest in this," said SBA President Ben Dwyer. "Everybody is directly affected by the budget cuts."

Dwyer, at the SBA meeting, announced that the association was

arranging to have class directors set aside time in various classes to inform students of the campaign, to encourage them to write letters to

state representatives and to make sample letters available. For example, some students will be targeted through their

research and writing classes.

The letters, which were drafted by First-year Class Director Veronica Rodriguez, are addressed to Governor George Pataki, State Senate Majority Leader Joseph

See **LETTER** on page 2

"All law students have an interest in this."

-- Ben Dwyer

BPILP Fund Drive!



Each spring, the Buffalo Public Interest Law Program holds a week-long Fund Drive in support of the Summer Internship Program. This year's drive, which is being held on the first floor of O'Brien Hall outside room 106, began Monday, Feb. 20, and will end Friday, Feb. 24. The money raised by the drive goes directly to funding the summer internships. "No donation is too small," said Helen Pundurs, BPILP coordinator, who hopes to secure 100 percent participation from students and faculty. For a donation of \$5 you receive a BPILP button; \$10 gets you a BPILP mug; \$20 buys you a BPILP T-shirt; and \$50 gets you two T-shirts or one T-shirt and a button and a mug. Shown (l. to r.) are: Alexandra Rivas, 2L, Julia Hillel, 2L, Pamela Branch, 3L, and Pundurs, 3L.

State set to restore death penalty

by Joe Broadbent, Asst. News Editor

State lawmakers and Governor Pataki came to an agreement last Wednesday on a bill which would bring the death penalty back to New York, a bill which the governor has called "the most effective in the country."

The bill, which still must be approved by the Senate and Assembly, would allow prosecutors to seek the death penalty in murders of police officers, criminal witnesses and so-called felony murders, as well as in cases of contract killings and serial murders. Juries would also have the options of imposing sentences of life in prison with or without possibility of parole. Capital punishment could not be imposed on those under 18 or on the mentally incompetent. Executions would be performed by lethal injection, which was called for by Pataki as being the most humane form of execution.

Under the proposed legislation, defendants could appeal death sentences on the ground that the prosecution was racially motivated. The New York statute would also be the first death penalty statute in the country to permit private, individual questioning of prospective jurors to screen out racial bias.

See **DEATH** on page 10

UB Law adds 3 new professors for next year

by Evan Baranoff, Editor-in-Chief

The three new law professors hired for next year include a couple of new names, as well as one that may be familiar to many UB Law students.

Susan V. Mangold, who currently teaches part-time at UB Law, was hired as a full-time, tenure track professor for next year at UB Law. Martha T. McCluskey of New York City and Teresa A. Miller of Miami



Susan Mangold

Beach were also hired as full-time, tenure track professors at UB Law, according to the Dean's Office.

Mangold, who is currently teaching the Evidence and the Child Victim course at UB Law, said she feels "very fortunate" to have the opportunity to be a full-time faculty

member.

"Teaching as an adjunct, you only get paid to teach and not to do research," she said. Now, she said, research will be included in her responsibilities as well.

Mangold said that, when she first came to UB Law in the Spring of 1993, she didn't know for sure if she wanted to teach, but, after teaching here at UB Law, she said "it's definitely what I want to do." She said

she is particularly excited about UB Law's focus on public interest work.

Mangold said that she doesn't know yet what she will be teaching next year. "It depends on the needs of the university," she explained, but added that she hopes to be able to continue teaching courses in Child Advocacy.

Mangold received her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1987. At UB See **NEWPROFS** on page 2

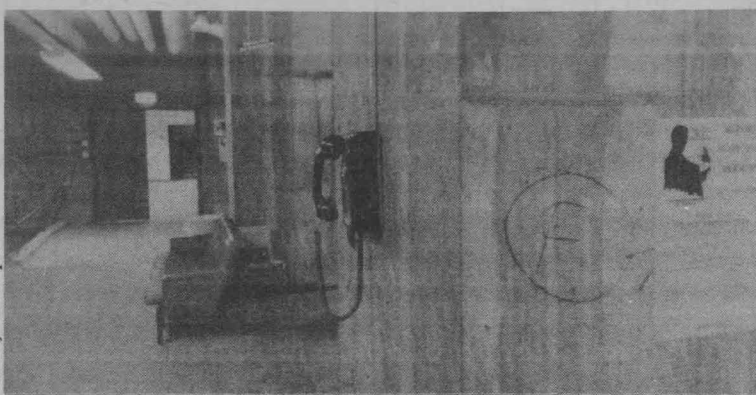
Emergency phone installed in O'Brian basement

by Jessica Murphy, Reporter

Hey, all you locker rats, notice anything different lately? If not, be sure to stop by and admire the brand new safety phone, which was recently installed through the combined efforts of George Hamboussi, Student Bar Association first-year class director, and the UB Law School administration. Mirrors grace the walls as well.

The fire-engine red phone is a personal safety measure that directly links anyone who needs it to Public Safety. Actually speaking into the phone is not necessary for response from public safety officers; just knocking the phone off the hook will prompt Public Safety to come to the phone's location to investigate, said Hamboussi. Finding the phone is easy; just look on the side of the basement with the most lockers and you'll see a bright red phone on the wall.

If you look around further, you'll see more. That's because the lighting has been improved, too. Mirrors have also been added to increase student visibility around corners.



The new safety phone in the basement only needs to be knocked off the hook to alert Public Safety.

"I said I would try to help out, and I'm happy to say it seems like the work is paying off," Hamboussi said. Dana Campbell, 1L, said, "I can't really see in any of the mirrors, so they don't do anything for me, but the lighting is definitely better. I think the phone is terrific."

One of Hamboussi's campaign goals was to improve basement safety. Throughout last semester, Hamboussi consistently met with Deans Alan Carrel and Marlene Cook, SBA President Ben Dwyer and Public Safety officials in order to pinpoint safety problems and to

discuss remedies.

Still a major concern are the lockers which are isolated from the main locker area. These lockers are positioned to the left of the elevator doors, hiding them from general view. Discussion has addressed moving the lockers to the common area but, as of yet, no firm plans have been made.

Hamboussi said that other ideas were bounced around, but priorities were closing off the potentially dangerous areas, putting all of the lockers together and adding a safety phone. He said the improved lighting and installed phone will increase

student awareness and alleviate fears.

"Student safety is our paramount concern," said Carrel.

Public Safety representatives presented the possibility of holding personal safety and self-defense sessions for UB Law students. Hamboussi still seeks feedback concerning possible self-defense classes and said that Public Safety would be more than happy to provide the law community with professionally-trained safety experts.

The storage areas that the university provost uses was another major subject. Hamboussi explained that the spaces on either side of the wired fences are dark and could possibly be used by an assailant to drag a victim into or in which to hide.

Hamboussi's plan for this semester is to approach the administration with the idea of adding peepholes to the offices in the basement area. He also wants to explore the possibility of distributing free whistles to the general student body.

Many of the remedies need money to be properly solved. Carrel

has committed himself to making every necessary safety adjustment that the student body needs.

"The administration's goal is to resolve problems like these because students shouldn't have to live with these concerns during their legal education," he said. Hamboussi agreed, "Dean Carrel is determined to help and work with our concerns, and not only to prevent the possibility of something happening, but also to relieve the tension of going down to the basement. We are all serious about making people feel safer."

Hamboussi stated that he plans to continue working on basement safety improvement this semester but that his success depends on student feedback. He wants as many responses as possible for his continuing locker room safety improvement plans. Hamboussi said he needs the feedback in order to make any more significant safety improvements.

If you're interested in a Public Safety/SBA sponsored self-defense class or any other safety problem, contact Hamboussi (box 687) or another SBA student director know.

Vacco's invitation challenged, continued from page 1

ing their turn to speak.

At one point in the debate, some opponents wanted to rescind the accepted invitation without consulting the rest of the third-year class. This sparked heated discussion over student participation and censorship, with supporters of the Committee's decision accusing the protestors of "censorship" and "codding their own beliefs" and opponents of the Committee's decision claiming that there was no issue of censorship whatsoever.

Some opponents accused Vacco of timing his change in policy to coincide with UB Law's invitation and of accepting in order to show that he is opposed to gay rights, an accusation that Erik Larson, 3L, called "insulting." Nancy Stroud, 3L, argued that allowing Vacco to speak at graduation would be expressing approval of his policy change.

In response, supporters of the Committee's decision focused on the things that Vacco has done to promote the law school to demonstrate that his acceptance of the invitation wasn't sinister and premeditated. Many members of the Committee expressed their concern over rescinding the offer due to Vacco's commitment to the law school and community.

Larson stated that the proposed rescission would be a "slap in the face" to a distinguished alumnu.

After two hours of intense debate, both sides agreed to circulate a petition to all third-year students asking for their opinion on the Vacco speech. Students will have the opportunity to sign the petition at tables outside the

law library or during third-year classes. The results of the petition will be evaluated by the Commencement Committee at its next meeting to be held Thursday, Feb. 23 at 11 a.m. in Room 207. Once the votes are in, the Committee will decide what it will do next.

Commencement Coordinator Marie McLeod stated that a decision must be made in the next three weeks before the Commencement programs are due to be published but added that the decision "shouldn't wait until the last minute either."

Dean Alan Carrel stated that "at this point, the law school is leaving it in the Committee's hands."

Carrel also explained that the Attorney General's office has indicated that it will not discriminate in any way when making employment decisions and that it will be "pleased" to sign a statement promising not to allow discrimination based on sexual orientation.

By signing the statement, which CDO requires of all on-campus recruiters, the Attorney General's office would be permitted to recruit on-campus, despite the change in its anti-discrimination policy.

CDO Director Audrey Koscielniak confirmed Carrel's statement that the Attorney General's Office will be permitted to recruit on campus, provided it signs the CDO non-discrimination statement, stating that the Office has not made a "positive statement" that it intends to discriminate, which The Army has done. As a result, the two recruiters would not be treated the same way.

McKenna said that Vacco has "not intention of considering a person's sexual orientation," adding that only a candidate's "experience and professionalism" will be considered in the AG office's hiring decisions.

After the meeting, students on both sides of the debate reflected on the meeting. Jay Kalasnik, 3L, said that "it's hypocritical that we're a diverse school except for political viewpoints."

Another student stated that "it's scary how close we came to having a few people make an enormous decision that will impact the entire class of over 200 students."

Nancy Stroud said, "as I see it, there are four choices: rescind the offer with explanation, rescind in principle (students would rescind but Vacco would still speak at Commencement), have two speakers or have a massive protest."

However, Marie McLeod stated that two speakers would not be feasible due to time constraints.

Opponents confirmed that, should Vacco speak at Commencement, "there will definitely be a protest."

In respect to other issues, the Committee announced that six students have expressed interest in the student speaker position. The six candidates will be placed on a ballot and voted on by the third-year student body.

Also, tickets for the commencement ceremony will be distributed this week; students will have two weeks to pick them up.

New Profs, continued from page 1

Law, she has worked on developing a child advocacy component to the Domestic Violence Clinic. Mangold is also co-directing the Family Violence Applied Research Institute.

McCluskey said she was attracted to UB Law's "humane and innovative approach to legal education."

"I always thought of UB as a place that would be really great to teach at," she said.

She said that she was very impressed with the faculty at UB Law. She said she heard a number of UB Law professors speak, including Professor Lucinda Finley.

McCluskey said nothing has been set as far as what courses she will teach, but said there are a number of possibilities. She said she is interested in insurance law and workers' compensation law. She also said that she hopes to teach a seminar in Feminist Legal Theory.

"I'm really excited to get to know more of the faculty and students and am looking forward to being there [UB] next year," she said.

McCluskey received her J.D. from Yale Law School in 1988 and is currently finishing up her LL.M. at Columbia Law School.

Miller, who is currently the project coordinator of the Volunteer Lawyers' Project for the Southern District of Florida, could not be reached by press time.

Miller received her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1986 and completed her LL.M. at the University of Wisconsin School of Law in 1989.

Letter campaign against SUNY cuts, continued from page 1

Bruno and State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver.

The letter states that, if implemented, the elimination of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and cuts to the Tuition Assistance Program and other financial aid programs, combined with a significant tuition hike, will result in a large and immediate withdrawal of UB law students.

Rodriguez said that this is not just a concern for minority students, since there are many poor white students that will be forced to give up their law studies by the effects of the proposed cuts. "This is not a color issue, it is an economic issue," Rodriguez said.

Students who will still be able to afford law school and third-years will also be adversely affected.

"The law school will be forced to accept lesser qualified students who can afford to pay," Rodriguez said. "This will cause the reputation of the law school that we have worked so hard to achieve to be tarnished."

The letter also states that the proposed cuts threaten the implementation of the long-awaited new curriculum. The curriculum will stress the acquisition of practical skills and

preparation for real world challenges attorneys face.

"The cuts call into question the ability of the administration to implement the new curriculum next year," Dwyer said. "They won't be able to make the changes to make this a better law school."

Dwyer said that class directors will encourage students to compose their own letters and not simply copy the model letters verbatim.

He said the letters are much more effective if they are addressed to the student's own state representatives and do not look mass produced.

Class directors visiting classrooms will bring with them lists of the names and addresses of all state senators and assemblymen and the locations of their districts. They will also have information packets about the effects of the proposed cuts.

Students who wish to get involved further can sign up in the Student Union to go to Albany on Monday, Feb. 27, to demonstrate and lobby at the state capitol, said SA President Herman Matfes.

Students will have an opportunity to meet and speak with

their state legislators and tell them how the proposed cuts will affect them personally and affect the school as a whole, Matfes said.

Busses to Albany depart from the student union at 3 a.m. Feb. 27. There is a sign up sheet in the union. Seats on the bus are on a first-come, first served basis, according to Matfes.

"I would like there to be not enough room on our sign up sheets so we have to make up more," Matfes said, "We always need more students."

Matfes also encouraged students to sign petitions protesting the budget cuts available at the UB United table in the Student Union and to register to vote if they haven't done so already.

After the demonstrations, representatives of UB United will stay in Albany to continue lobbying for an additional day. A delegation from UB United will return to Albany on March 7 to continue their efforts, Matfes said.

Legislators are expected to vote on the state budget on April 1, according to Matfes.

Rodriguez said, "All of us have a stake in this together."

Most professors meet grade deadline

by Evan Baranoff, Editor-in-Chief

Sixteen grades of a total of 94 courses and seminars were not submitted by the Feb. 15 deadline, according to Karen Waltz of the Registrar Office; however, by press time yesterday, only 10 of those 16 grades had still not been turned into the Registrar Office.

"It's the best response we've had yet,"

said Waltz, comparing this semester's grades submission with the last four years she's been at UB Law. "It's been really pretty good, especially with the large exam courses."

Student Bar Association President Ben Dwyer was not as pleased with the number of grades turned in by the deadline. "It's disappointing, but there's not much that we can do."

Last month, the SBA warned the faculty about the impending grade deadline. In the SBA's letter to the faculty, Dwyer explained, "We want them [grades] not simply for curiosity sake, but because students have real needs, including employment needs, for timely grades."

Dwyer explained that late grades have been a problem for some time. He said the Feb. 15 deadline was reasonable for anyone to meet unless the professor had an extraordinary workload, adding "most [professors] do get it in."

Dean Barry Boyer agreed: "For most people, it's [the deadline] reasonable."

Boyer explained that the Feb. 15 deadline, which has been in effect since the late 1970s, was based on how long it should take to grade the essays of a large class.

When asked what happens to tardy graders, Boyer responded: "We nag." He added, "It's the Jewish mother sanction; we try to instill guilt feelings."

Dwyer explained that late grades can have a harmful effect on students. "For first-years, it's a big morale problem. They desperately need feedback," he said. "For second- and third-years that are applying for transfers or jobs, [late grades] can have real negative

SBA Meeting:

LALSA receives money for scholarships

By Steven Dietz, Reporter

The Latin American Law Students Association Feb. 21 received a solid commitment of \$1,000, with the possibility of an additional \$500 in the future, from the Student Bar Association to help fund three scholarships.

The first scholarship, the Joseph Antonecchia Scholarship, will enable a law student fluent in Spanish to work with migrant farm workers in California, according to a memorandum distributed by LALSA to the SBA.

The second scholarship, the Community Volunteer Scholarship, will enable one or more law students to perform pro bono work with any firm, agency or solo practitioner in the city of Buffalo.

The third scholarship, the Julio Fernandez Scholarship, is named in memory of the father of LALSA President Noemi Fernandez and is being funded by members of her family until she graduates from UB Law School, when she plans to finance it herself.

"I feel it's a start," Fernandez said of the SBA action, "I hope it is a beginning and they'll give us more at the beginning of the next school year."

Fernandez came to the meeting asking that the SBA match each dollar raised by LALSA. The memorandum stated that so far, LALSA had raised \$1,200 for the scholarships.

SBA President Ben Dwyer initially suggested that the funds be matched 33 cents on the dollar. Class Director Tom Trbovich, 1L, suggested a cap on the total amount. Class Director Veronica Rodriguez, 1L, then suggested that a flat amount be allocated and asked Fernandez if \$1,000 would be a reason-

able amount.

Dwyer said that it was his recollection that there wasn't \$1,000 unallocated in the SBA budget. However, he said that the money could easily be found by pulling money from the accounts of organizations that were allocated money but hadn't spent it. This would require a 2/3 vote of the Student Bar Association, Dwyer said.

SBA Parliamentarian Adam Easterday then suggested taking the money from unallocated reserve then later replenishing the fund by refusing to permit organizations with unspent funds to roll over the money into next year.

It was then suggested that the SBA approach the student groups and ask them to make voluntary donations of unspent funds towards the allocation for the scholarship fund.

Rodriguez moved to allocate \$1,500 to the scholarship fund. Class Director Sandy Fazili, 2L, moved to amend the motion to allocate LALSA \$1,000 initially and tentatively allocate an additional \$500 if the funds can be found. Rodriguez agreed to the amendment. The resolution as amended passed 12-1-1.

In order to raise additional funds for the scholarships, LALSA is holding bagel and lunch plate sales every other Tuesday, is selling raffle tickets for three current raffles and is holding a benefit dance at 9 p.m. on Feb. 24 at the Student Union Social Hall. Admission is \$2 if you bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to a local homeless shelter. Otherwise, admission is \$3.

Fernandez said LALSA has been very active this year, "hopefully setting a standard

as 'late graders' professors who afforded seminar students extensions beyond the grading deadline. It is obviously unreasonable to demand that faculty grade papers before they have been turned in. Because The Opinion has not distinguished late graders from graders of late papers in its statistics, it is hard to determine the extent of the late grading problem"

Binder said.

"Since, given the opportunity, almost all students prefer to hand in papers months or even years late, it is hard for me to believe that students experience delay in receiving their grades as very much of a hardship," Binder continued.

"Nevertheless, a commitment is a commitment and faculty who do not make a good

faith effort to meet their collectively self-imposed grading deadline set a poor example for students," Binder said.

Professor Christine Farley said she thought the grade deadline was reasonable. "It is very generous for some professors, but quite a burden for others depending on the number of students and type of final," she said. "Moving up the deadline would discourage professors from giving final projects rather than standard bluebooks."

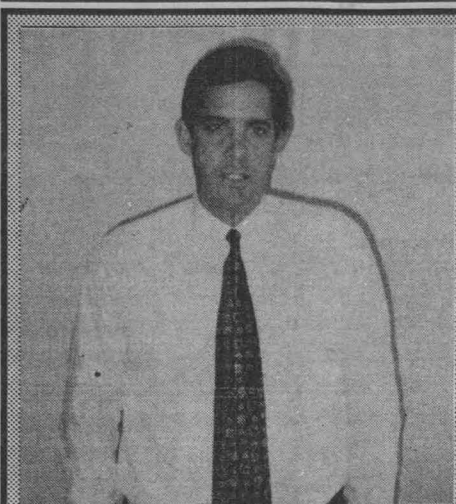
She said that in the normal course of events, returning grades to students in a timely fashion "is a primary concern." However, "special situations do arise," Farley added.

About whether late grades was a problem, Farley said, "It may be an individual problem, but it is not an institutional problem."

Professor John Sheffer said he believed the grade deadline was reasonable, but added, "I would support an earlier deadline if such a change would better facilitate job applications, financial aid programs, or other needs of students."

Sheffer said returning grades to students in a timely fashion was "definitely" an important goal for the faculty. "Timeliness is not as important as thorough, competent, fair grading

See **LATE GRADES** on page 10



Dean for Major Gifts Tom Farrell

Major gifts are major goal at UB Law

by Peter Zummo, Managing Editor

In this era of budget constraints and cutbacks, UB Law is not just sitting still, according to the new Associate Dean for Major Gifts. Dean Tom Farrell said he will leave no stone unturned in his efforts to bring significant private money to the school.

On the job since Jan. 17, Farrell comes to UB Law from a similar position at the University of Rochester. He sees his task as being especially important, given the new fiscal realities in the state.

"More money will be needed from the private sector to compensate for the decline in public support," Farrell explained.

Farrell's goal is to find that private money and bring it to UB Law. He stated that private gift giving to universities is nothing new, but that public universities, as opposed to private schools, have come to the arena relatively late. UB Law, however, is ahead of other public colleges in the business of fundraising.

In addition to being the only public law school in the state, "UB Law holds a special place in the legal community of Western New York and has a long and distinguished tradition, with a nationally-renowned faculty," Farrell said. "There are many attorneys who care about the law, and about UB Law."

Farrell hopes to appeal to those alumni who have been successful and convince them to become major contributors to the school. With "over 7,000 graduates, alumni represent an untapped resource" that UB Law can appeal to for funds that are increasingly vital to a school like ours.

Since the early 1980's, UB Law has implemented a program administered by the alumni relations office to raise money from private sources. Most contributions have been under \$10,000. Gifts over \$10,000 and under \$25,000 are classified as "special," while "major gifts" are those which exceed \$25,000. Farrell's appointment represents a commitment on the part of the UB administration to increase the number of major gifts to the school.

Farrell's priorities include identifying the best prospects for appeals for major gifts and "formalizing the case for support." The two principal elements of that case are the New Curriculum and the state funding cutbacks. Farrell described one of the goals of the New Curriculum as "taking the law school from its current level of excellence into the top tiers of law schools in the country. Major gifts fund-raising can help achieve that goal."

While the primary focus of Farrell's initial appeal will be the Western New York legal community, he stated that he will "go where the money is" and mentioned New York City, Washington D.C., California and Florida as areas with a significant alumni population and possible fertile ground for fundraising.

At this time, no specific programs have been identified as the beneficiaries of the funds raised through the new effort. Probable

See **FARRELL** on page 10

for the future."

BPILP Gets Grant for Internship

The SBA also granted Buffalo Public Interest Law Program was also granted \$500 to help fund internships for Summer 1996, then aired some criticism regarding its current fund drive.

As with the LALSA allocation, an additional \$500 will be added to the grant if the money can be found from the unspent accounts of other student organizations.

Class Director Dan Werner, 2L, had asked during debate on the question whether the money could be allocated from the social budget, but Dwyer said that line was wiped out.

BPILP representative Helen Pundurs said during the meeting that the results of last spring's pledge drive were so disappointing that internships this summer will have to be reduced from 13 to six. She said UB holds itself out to be a public interest law school in its catalog, yet the money allocated to public interest law programs here is much less than many private law schools.

She also mentioned that the Alumni Association had excluded BPILP from its phoneathon due to regulations regarding the amount of times alumni can be solicited for money.

"Things are at a real crisis point," Pundurs said.

The SBA voted 11-1-1 to allocate \$500 for the internships, with the possibility of an additional \$500 if the money could be found.

After the vote, Class Director George Hamboussi, 1L, (who voted for the allocation) told Pundurs that he had been getting com-

See **SBA Meeting** on page 9

THE OPINION



Volume 35, No. 10

Founded 1949

February 22, 1995

Evan C. Baranoff
Editor-in-ChiefPeter G. Zummo
Managing Editor**EDITORIAL:****Don't revoke Vacco's invitation**

The short version of the facts are as follows: The Commencement Committee, charged with selecting the keynote speaker for commencement, invited Attorney General Dennis Vacco to speak at commencement. He accepted. Vacco then issued an order to remove sexual orientation from the Attorney General office's anti-discrimination policy. Now, several third-years are calling for Vacco's invitation to be rescinded.

Protestors first accused the Committee with sending Vacco a "private invitation." This is not the case, as third-years had more than adequate opportunity to have input on the Committee's decision.

Third-years were sent a memo in mid-January asking those interested in the commencement's activities to join the Committee. It is our understanding that there was no limitation on the number of people who could join this Committee.

Furthermore, the Committee's meetings were open to the public and third-years could join the Committee at any time.

The purpose of the Committee, among other things, was to select a keynote speaker for commencement -- select a speaker, not recommend one to the third-year class at large.

Perhaps the Committee should have sent another memo to third-years once they chose a speaker to seek more input; however, we feel that such a step would not have made a difference in this instance nor was it in fact necessary (although it might have been nice).

The opposition to Vacco's invitation only surfaced after Vacco's decision to remove sexual orientation from a list of classes protected against discrimination in the Attorney General's office. Therefore, since this decision was made after the Committee's invitation, nobody would have cared at that point that Vacco was selected as the keynote speaker.

The issue then is does Vacco's decision to remove sexual orientation from his office's anti-discrimination policy warrant rescinding his invitation to speak at commencement.

In defense of his decision, Vacco said that he wanted to conform his office's policy with the state Human Rights Law. He added that it was up to the Legislature to add sexual orientation as a protected class.

We find his analysis erroneous. The Human Rights Law outlines only the minimum protections required by law and doesn't preclude affording additional protections, as evidenced by the fact that Vacco's predecessors issued executive orders to protect sexual orientation from being considered. Therefore, if he believes sexual orientation to be worthy of protection, then he should have maintained his office's former policy. Instead, he allowed himself to rationalize a "legitimate reason" for his change in policy.

Vacco said that only experience and professionalism should be considered in his office's hiring practices. If this is so, then why remove the protection?

Vacco said that he would never discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. In fact, he agreed to sign an agreement with the CDO (required of all recruiters)

See **EDITORIAL: DON'T REVOKE INVITATION** next column

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Stabilizing: Pizza

Destabilizing: Blown deadlines and computer glitches

The Opinion is a non-profit, independent, student-owned and run publication funded by the SBA from student law fees. The Opinion, SUNY At Buffalo Amherst Campus, 724 John Lord O'Brian Hall, Buffalo, New York 14260 (716) 645-2147.

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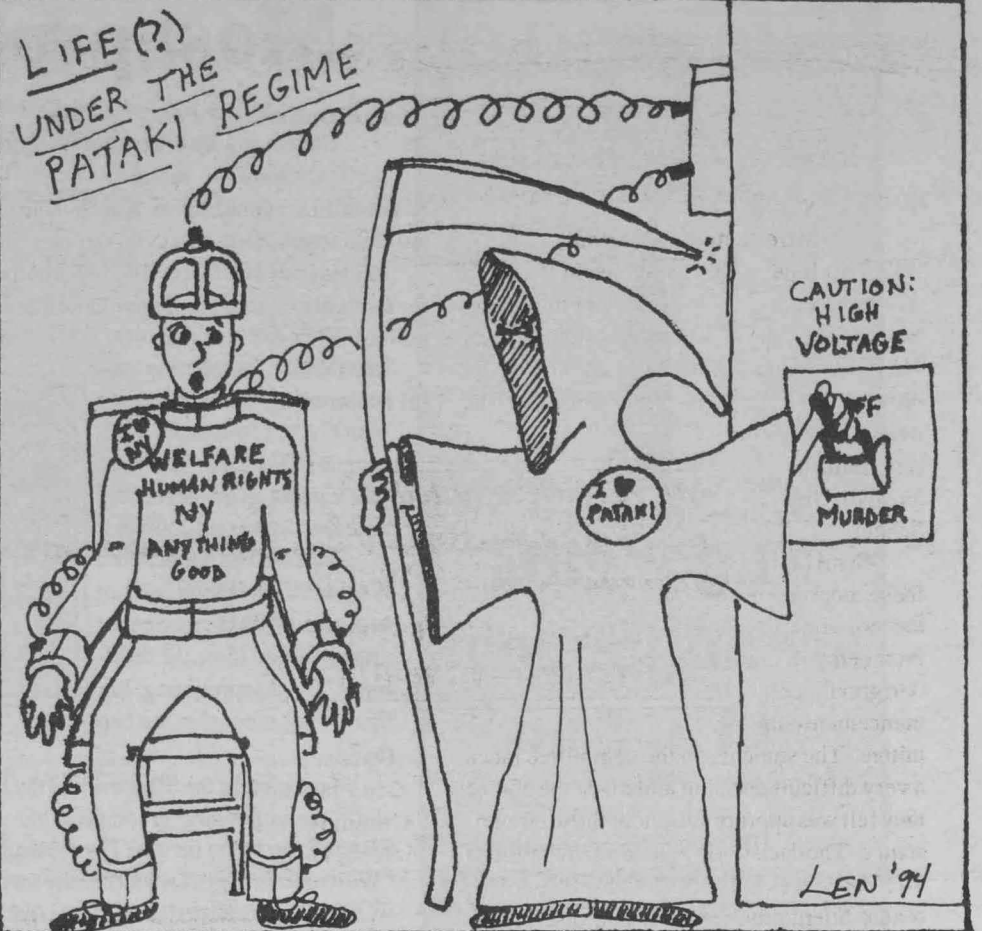
Submission deadlines for letters to the editor and Perspectives are 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding publication. Advertising deadlines are 6 p.m. on the Friday preceding publication.

Submissions may either be sent to The Opinion at the above noted address, dropped off under The Opinion office door (room 724 O'Brian Hall), or placed in Box #10 or #280 on the third floor of O'Brian Hall. All copy must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted on paper and on a computer disk (IBM-WordPerfect). Letters are best when written as a part of a dialogue and must be no more than two pages double-spaced. Perspectives are generally opinion articles concerning topics of interest to the law school community and must be no more than four pages double-spaced. The Opinion reads and appreciates every letter and Perspective we receive; we reserve the right to edit any and all submissions for space as necessary and also for libelous content. The Opinion will not publish unsigned submissions. We will return your disks to your campus mailbox or to a private mailbox if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

The Opinion is dedicated to provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas. As a result, the views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Editors or Staff of The Opinion.

"Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press;..."

-- The First Amendment

**EDITORIAL:****What can be done about late grades?**

Sixteen Fall semester grades were submitted after the Feb. 15 deadline.

While those who recall past experiences with late grades may praise this result, absent extraordinary circumstances, there should be no reason why grades cannot be turned in on time.

With that said, what can be done?

Professor John Sheffer had an excellent suggestion. If students truly believe that late grades are a burden to them, they should form a joint faculty-student task force to research the problem and recommend how to resolve it.

It is important that students demonstrate a true need for timely grades and we believe they can. For example, the need for timely feedback and also for complete transcripts for employment purposes are two excellent illustrations of students' needs.

Once students demonstrate a need for timely grades at a particular date, then the burden must rest on the faculty to show why grades can't be submitted at that time.

The joint committee could weigh the needs of students with the restraints of faculty and determine what a reasonable resolution would be.

The faculty must recognize, however, that until this issue is dealt with, students' frustrations will continue to grow.

Editorial: Don't revoke Vacco's invitation, continued

not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. While it may be true that he has no intention of discriminating against homosexuals, by removing the protection afforded to homosexuals, he allows for the possibility for discrimination from his subordinates who will make hiring decisions and provides no recourse for those who are discriminated against.

However, while we may not agree with his decision and even fear that it might allow discrimination to take place, we feel that uninviting him is not the proper response to his actions.

Like him or not, Dennis Vacco is currently one of UB Law's most prominent alumni and he deserves to speak at graduation.

If a majority of third-years opposed his speaking at the proper time (i.e. -before inviting him), that would be their right. However, to uninvited Vacco would irreparably damage the school's reputation. It would also send a clear message to alumni that only certain viewpoints are wanted and others need not apply.

While we acknowledge the right of the protestors to challenge Vacco's decision in a mature and articulate fashion, the decision for keynote speaker should be made using objective standards.

Vacco and all alumni, including the third-year class, share a common bond: the experience of UB Law. Commencement is a time for reflection on this experience and encouragement for the future. Despite his ill-advised decision, Vacco was properly chosen by the Committee, which was, after all, the duly authorized group to make that decision.

In this regard, a decision to rescind Vacco's invitation would not just affect the third-year class, but future classes as well. Therefore, regardless of the outcome of the petition drive currently being undertaken to rescind Vacco's invitation, the Committee's decision to invite Vacco must be upheld.

In conclusion, Dennis Vacco remains the natural choice for commencement keynote speaker, regardless of his political views.

Due to production problems, the publication of this issue of The Opinion was published one day late. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may have caused. The next issue of The Opinion is scheduled for publication on March 8; submissions are due March 3.

Perspectives

In opposition to Vacco speaking at graduation

By Nancy Stroud

Introductory Statement

This letter is in no way meant to reflect on either Dean Carrel or Professor Finley, who serve a very important purpose as members of Mr. Vacco's transition team. I commend you on your very difficult job of working within the transition team to represent the interests of UB Law School.

Similarly, these comments are not aimed at members of the "original" commencement committee.

The students on the committee faced a very difficult decision and made the choice they felt was appropriate under those circumstance. The decision to extend an invitation to Mr. Vacco was made prior to his deletion of sexual orientation from his non-discrimination policy and after his invitation to members of the faculty to join his transition team.

The Commencement Committee Meeting

On Feb. 16, the commencement committee met with several students concerned that an invitation had been extended to Dennis Vacco to speak at our graduation. As a result, members of the third year class will be able to voice their favor or opposition to Mr. Vacco's presence at our graduation by signing a petition. This petition drive will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 21 & 22. There is only one petition. If you are in favor of having Dennis Vacco speak at Commencement, write "YES" next to your name. If you are opposed, write "NO" next to your name. Members of the commencement committee will be bringing the petitions to classes and will also be tabling outside the library. Please sign the petition only once. Keep in mind that writing "NO" on the petition does not necessarily mean Mr. Vacco's invitation will be rescinded. There are options at the end of the "No Road."

Options

1. Rescind his invitation with an explanation detailing student concerns.
2. Rescind his invitation in principle with

an explanation detailing student concerns but still allow him to speak at graduation.

3. Have two speakers, either dividing the time in half or extending graduation for an additional 5 to 15 minutes.

4. Do nothing and watch (or participate in) the protest.

Other suggestions are more than welcome.

REMEMBER: The petition drive is only to get a feel from the class.

Reasons to

Oppose Dennis Vacco's Speaking at Graduation Based On His Decision to Eliminate Sexual Orientation From the Attorney General's Non-Discrimination Policy

1. Sexual preference has been in the Attorney General's Office Policy for 15 years, three years longer than Governor Cuomo was in office. Mr. Vacco's deletion was an affirmative act requiring a change in all office materials which detail non-discrimination policy. This type of change is not without many costs.

2. Mr. Vacco claims he wants his office policy to "conform" to the human rights law of the state. However, he fails to recognize the still valid executive order 28, which modifies the human rights law as applied to all state agencies to include sexual orientation. (Pataki has stated that he will take 90 days to review all existing executive orders and then come out with his own or rescind those he does not want continued. You can call 518-474-1041, the Governor's Citizen Service Unit, to confirm this information and to request that Mr. Pataki keep executive order 28 in effect.) Mr. Pataki has not rescinded executive order 28 as of this writing and he certainly did not rescind it prior to Mr. Vacco's deletion. Therefore, giving Mr. Vacco every bit of credibility I can muster, Mr. Vacco's policy change is at best described as inappropriate in light of current law. It also makes Mr. Vacco appear incompetent, since the state's top lawyer "forgot to Shepardize",

Education, Crime and Punishment

by Diane Lorenc Mathers

Whether or not most students realize it, in our society, education is a privilege. It ought to be a right, but it is nevertheless a privilege. There are all too many foolish adolescents who balk at their privilege, in spite of interested parents who are willing to finance their education. There are students who treat their educational opportunity arrogantly and ungratefully, as if they are, in their grotesque ignorance, firmly convinced they are doing their parents some sort of favor by being in school. Then there are other students who, by virtue of their own blood, sweat, and tears, work, sacrifice, and put themselves through school, all the while prizing their privileged opportunity to get an education.

Given that education is a privilege that the wealthy take for granted, and the poor and disadvantaged rarely get to enjoy, does it make any sense for criminals to be afforded such a luxury? When one is convicted of a crime they are aware that they indeed still have rights (more "rights" than any of their victims got to enjoy, as critics ruefully observe). Indeed, humanists and progressives recognize that, regardless of the inhumanity of their crimes, we must yet respect the rights, dignity, and integrity of convicts regardless of the fact that their victims were not treated with respect—that their dignity, integrity, and sometimes even their right to live was completely destroyed. However, just because convicts did awful things does not mean that we "have to be as bad as they are" and treat them awfully. As the wise adage goes, "two wrongs do not make

a right", and however reluctantly, we intuitively accept it as true.

In terms of disadvantaged and abused childhoods the argument becomes clearer. In order to be "rehabilitated", one must be treated well; truly, people "heal" through the power of love and not hatred. Thus, there is hope that, by being treated with dignity and respect while they are in prison, they will no longer commit crimes when they are released. Thus, while in prison, it is necessary that criminals be treated humanely.

However, is there a line between rights and privileges that we as a society can draw? As stated, in our society, education is a privilege based on wealth; in other countries it is a right based on merit, i.e., if you do well in school and study real hard you get to continue to study and go to school. Indeed, education ought to be a right available to all citizens and not merely a privilege for those who are already privileged. Regardless of whether one deems education a right or a privilege, my contention still stands: Criminals ought not be afforded the privilege/right of attaining a university and/or professional degree. As a right, they forfeited it by committing a crime. Does it make any sense whatsoever for honest, hardworking citizens to be denied this privilege/right that lawbreakers are offered and enjoy?

There is a particular case I have in mind: Karla Homolka/Paul Bernardo Trial. For those who are unfamiliar with it, I will recap the highlights: To begin with, we are not dealing with disadvantaged persons, by any means. On

in a manner of speaking.

3. Mr. Vacco has stated that his position should not include the creation of law, but only the enforcement of law. Obviously this only means the laws he personally agrees with, since the current law REQUIRES him to have a non-discrimination policy which includes sexual orientation. His deletion of the phrase IS CREATING NEW LAW!

4. Mr. Vacco has stated that he does not plan on discriminating against gays and lesbians. Well, then, why specifically exclude sexual preference from the office policy?

5. The fact that the Attorney General's Office, the top law enforcement agency in the state, specifically writes out protections for gays and lesbians can only send one message to the general public: it's open season on gays and lesbians.

6. It is absolutely ridiculous to sell out to Dennis Vacco in the hopes that someday he might bring some type of a helpful program to the law school. Dennis Vacco stands for everything this law school is against. If we sell out to this little carrot he holds in front of our noses, we not only lose our rights, we lose our dignity.

7. Prestige? What prestige does one gain from gleaming praise from a man who steps without thought or research on the rights of minority groups. Is that the type of "prestige" you want? Is this the type of man you want UB Law to be associated with?

Reasons Other Than the Policy Change to Object to Mr. Vacco's Speaking

Mr. Vacco is an integral part of the PATAKISSAULT CORPS, a squad which is systematically striking out against racial minorities, women, gays and lesbians, the poor and the few remaining members of the middle class. The TIME is NOW. We can not wait four years to mop up the pieces. We can not sit on our haunches and wait for someone else to act. In four years the rights of minorities and the poor will be pushed back a quarter of a century.

When we ask ourselves, should we embarrass Mr. Vacco by rescinding his invitation, let us not forget OUR own pockets into which the Pataki assault corps has reached, to pull out

See **IN OPPOSITION** continued on page 6

the contrary, Paul and Karla are white, wealthy, and attractive by society's standards. They lived the high life and unbelievably chose violent crime for their kicks instead of other plausible options like travelling, or toys that most poor people cannot afford. Here's what they did: when porn magazines and flicks no longer satiated their perverted sexual desires, they sought and found something bigger and better: kidnapping, assaulting, mutilating, raping, and torturing young women while having sex with them on video. These are called "snuff videos" and, horribly enough, there is an abundant supply and demand for them.

What they would do is go for a drive together, hunting for an appealing specimen; when they zeroed in on their prey, Karla would call out to her for directions or whatnot. The girl approached the car feeling confident that these people were "legitimate"—indeed, the girls who were killed probably would not have given Paul the time of day had he been alone in the car, but Karla was the effectual "bait"—indeed, she was essential. Given Karla's primacy in the execution of these unspeakably horrendous crimes, one would think that the law would deal harshly with her. All in all, they raped, beat, tortured, and killed 3 young women, one of whom was Karla's younger sister Tammy!

"Harsh" may be a relative word but, it seems to me that most would agree that taking university courses for credit, ordering fast food, exercising, owning a TV and VCR in one's own cell, wearing one's own clothes, being allowed

See **EDUCATION** continued on page 6

Vacco should speak at Commencement

By David Adams, Maureen Edwell, Alan Rosenthal, Ted Starishevsky and Gina Vitiello

As you know, Dennis Vacco, the Attorney General for the State of New York, has been asked to be the keynote speaker at the commencement this year. He has enthusiastically accepted that invitation. The offer to him was made after the commencement committee, which all members of the senior class were invited to join, voted unanimously to ask Mr. Vacco to address the class.

Since this is the first time in history that the State's chief lawyer has been a graduate of UB Law School, it seemed most appropriate to ask Mr. Vacco to speak at our graduation. Many people in offices at that level do not make time to return so quickly to their alma mater, but we hoped he might, because he has been active at the school as a member of the board of directors of the Law Alumni Association, and as an adjunct faculty member in the Trial Technique Program. As a duly authorized group representing the senior class, we made the offer and it has been accepted.

Now some students have expressed opposition to Attorney General Vacco, because he removed the sexual preference clause from his office's non-discrimination policy. Attorney General Vacco has stated that he removed the clause only because it is not included in the Human Rights Law, and he believes any change should be made by the legislature rather than by his office. Although we may not all agree with the way this was handled, there is no reason to believe that his office will discriminate in any way. He has explicitly stated that he is not concerned with a person's sexual orientation and that it is not a factor to be considered when making employment decisions. He has promised that he will not discriminate, and his record as the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York shows no hint of any discrimination. Before that, he spent 10 years as a prosecutor in the Erie County District Attorney's Office, where he was also highly regarded with an unblemished reputation.

Concern has also been expressed that his office will not recruit on our campus because of an unwillingness to sign UB's anti-discrimination statement, which includes sexual orientation. On the contrary, Mr. Vacco's office has indicated that they will gladly sign the statement. In addition, the policy of his predecessor, which precluded an attorney from working in the Attorney General's Office until two years after graduation from law school, has recently been changed to eliminate the waiting period. Mr. Vacco has indicated a strong willingness to hire third-year law students to begin working after graduation. He also expects to hire numerous law students as summer interns, and he has a special allegiance for those who attend UB, which he proudly identifies as his law school.

At an earlier stage in this process, a discussion of the merits of inviting Mr. Vacco was welcome. Everyone in the class had the opportunity to be involved in making that selection, and those people who volunteered to participate voted unanimously to ask Mr. Vacco as their first choice. Now that an offer to the Attorney General of the State of New York has been made and accepted, it seems entirely inappropriate to think about rescinding it.

The authors are all members of the Commencement Committee who invited Vacco to speak.

Opinion Mailbox

Don't mock Jesus

To the editor:

During the past week, there have been many attempts in the law school building to define who Jesus is and what He stands for. As a law student who considers Jesus as the most important person in my life, I would like to state who Jesus is to me.

Jesus is my Lord and Savior. He died on a cross to pay the penalty for my sins and gave me the gift of eternal life when I received him into my heart six years ago this month. Everything I am and all that I will ever be are a result of His strength and grace. Although He is God, He considers me His brother and I owe my life to His love. I am no one special, though, because Jesus offers the same love and forgiveness to anyone who would ask Him into their heart.

Lately, there has been a backlash at the law school against the Christian faith. Some

may feel that this is deserved. However, Jesus does not deserve to be mocked. As a follower of Christ, I humbly ask whoever has been placing those papers up to stop. Jesus never did anything to you, except die on a cross for your salvation.

Michael P. Grainger, 2L

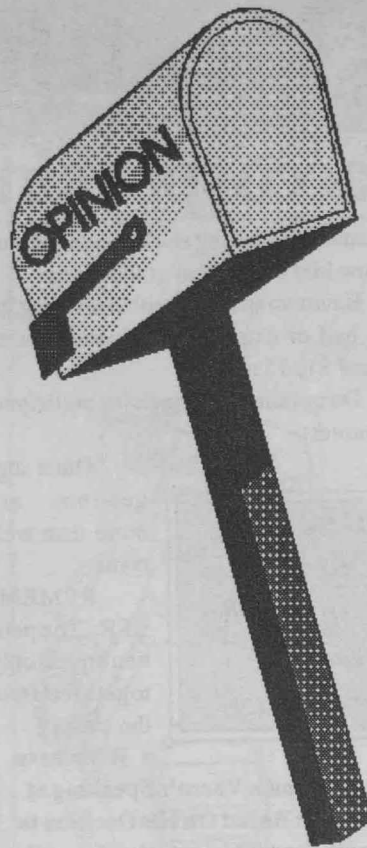
LGBLS opposed Michelman event

To the editor:

An error appeared in the last SBA Newsletter. LGBLS was mistakenly connected to a fund raising attempt to bring Kate Michelman to speak at the law school. LGBLS voted not to co-sponsor the event.

I apologize for any misunderstanding the notation caused. In addition, Kate Michelman had to cancel the event due to a schedule conflict.

Nancy Stroud, 3L



In need of legal assistance

To the editor:

I am presently incarcerated at F.C.I. McKean, and serving a 22 year Federal sentence. At the moment I am representing myself pro se, and I am seeking legal assistance in hopes for relief from my conviction.

I am hoping that possibly I can receive assistance from your department to review my trial transcripts in search for any constitutional violations that may have occurred during my trial. Perhaps there may be a law student that is willing to assist me in my quest for freedom. I must inform you that I have no financial resources and there is very little that I can contribute to this task.

If you or any student in your institution is interested, please contact me at the address below.

Sincerely,
Wadgy Charif #17021-083
P.O. Box 80001(B)
Bradford, PA 16701

In opposition to Vacco speaking at graduation, continued from page 5

the last of our lint. The threatened lay-offs and program cuts. The mere fact that Mr. Pataki did not even have the decency to address a crowd of our peers at a rally in Buffalo last week.

Who will be left at UB Law School to benefit from these little carrots Mr. Vacco holds in front of our noses and asks us to bite from? Who will be eligible? Who will be able to afford it? EOP gone. TAP gone. Tuition \$2,000 more per semester. I'll tell you who will be here: those who have traditionally held positions of power in this society. PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE DENNIS VACCO AND GEORGE PATAKI.

Don't kid yourself into thinking Dennis Vacco is a distinct and separate entity from George Pataki. The PATAKI ASSAULT CORPS is using a traditional "divide and

conquer" maneuver to splinter the efforts of groups who oppose his changes. Dennis Vacco's policy change simply adds one more front to the maneuver.

Where will the money come from for these "carrots" we are being offered? Why is it that Mr. Vacco can spend another \$1,000 per month on an EXTRA OFFICE in Buffalo while at the same time the state is in such a financial crisis? Whose job is he going to eliminate so that he can sit in his cozy new office? Which families will be living on the street? Whose kids will no longer receive health care? Which women will have to sell their bodies to get food for their kids to eat?

But He's a UB Grad...

Is Dennis Vacco the only graduate of UB?

No! Are their gay and lesbian grads of UB in the Attorney General's Office? YES! Are there MORE gays and lesbians in the AG's office than there are Dennis Vaccos? Yes, so why support one UB grad over many others? Don't they deserve as much support? If you choose to support Mr. Vacco, you must ask yourself, "Am I only doing this because of his position of power?" If the answer is "yes", I wish you well on your new diet of carrot bits. If the answer is "no", speak out.

One Last Note

I have been asked not to be a reactionary, to somehow wait until there is damning proof of discrimination before I act. I equate these words with a request to be silent. I'm sorry I can not and I will not. The phrase

"SILENCE=DEATH" did not originate out of thin air. The PATAKI ASSAULT CORPS is here, in power, and alive; acting every day to destroy the rights of minority groups. My choices are limited: live outside of society or fight the powers that create these barriers. History repeats itself. I need not wait for the first ruined career to predict it is coming.

If you care about UB Law School, if you care about anything, care about this. As students, we are often without voices. This time we have the power to send a message to Mr. Vacco: If you want to help the law school, fine, but not under these terms!! Please write, "NO!" on the petitions! Thank you for caring.

Nancy Stroud is Vice-President of the LGBLS.

Education, Crime and Punishment, continued from page 5

private visits with family at an unsupervised cottage and the prospect of full parole in 3 years does not in any way, shape or form constitute harsh punishment. Apparently, the law is dealing with Karla with kid gloves because of her agreement to testify against her husband at trial. One wonders if her testimony is all that essential as they actually have the "snuff" videos showing the girls being tortured, raped, and killed. Nevertheless, they do in fact regard her testimony as essential and are certainly willing to "spoil" her for it.

Karla's husband's life is not so pretty. He spends his time bored in a bleak windowless segregation cell at the Niagara Detention Center. Visitors speak to him through a perspex screen. Indeed, such treatment seems fitting. However, even honest feminists cannot dispute the reverse sexism here. As they both committed and took direct part in these horrendous crimes, why is Bernardo rightfully punished and Karla nauseatingly babied? Because she is a woman? Because women don't really commit violent crimes like that? Because she must have been brainwashed by her husband? Such thinking is inevitably sexist and insulting, because the fact is, woman or man, she was just as evil as her husband; what she did was just as heinous (if not more so!). So the question remains: why are they meted wholly disparate situations?

It is grotesque that Karla is able to enjoy the privileges of on-site education and correspondence courses. Rightfully she ought to spend her time in a potato sack, and be forced to do hard labor for the rest of her life. So why does she get to experience the opposite? She comfortably wears her own clothes, watches cable TV in her "dorm-like" prison cell; she has weekend workouts at the gym, periodic fast

food dinners, and private visits. Her parents, her sister, and even her pet Rottweiler have journeyed on a regular basis to see her. On these visits, Karla and her family stay at these unsupervised cottages equipped with stoves, microwave ovens, VCR, and a gas bar-be-que. All of the comforts of home without annoyingly intrusive guards. With the help of the Ontario government, student loans are available to her and Karla plans to have her B.A. in 3 or 4 years. She told her friends that she should probably be done by the time of her release on parole.

I cannot be the only one who finds it offensive for murderers to live privileged, "cushy" lives. Indeed, Karla can count on two things: one, that she has been and will continue to be treated better than her husband because she is a woman. Two, she can count on the apathy of the citizenry to allow this to continue. People may read the articles, make a comment or two about the case, but will unfortunately not actively work to change the unjust situation. What can be done? As we live in a democracy, we ought to write to legislators and express our views. We must push for legislative change. The populace must rise up and take responsibility for this travesty of justice.

Unless we publicly decry such atrocities and employ fervent political activism, monsters like Karla Homolka will continue to live BETTER than most poor, underprivileged, honest, hardworking people despite having committed these disgusting crimes against humanity. If society does not get motivated, we are all going to have to live in a world where female criminals are pampered while honest hardworking citizens suffer and work themselves to the bone to pay for the privileges of criminals!

Diane Lorenc Mathers is a 1L.

Tell us your opinion!

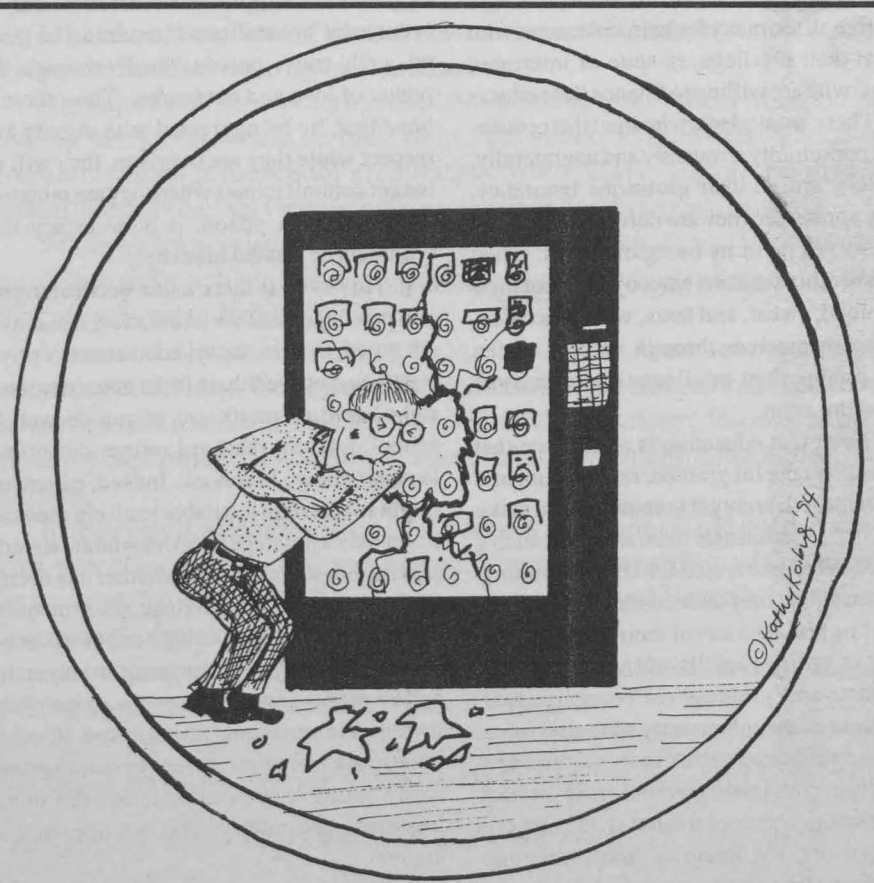
If you have an opinion on anything published in our newspaper or on any current events topic that concerns the law school community, write The Opinion.

All submissions are due the Friday before we publish. Your submission must be typed, doubled-spaced, and submitted on paper and on a computer disk

(IBM-WordPerfect 5.1 format).

The Opinion reserves the right to edit any and all submissions for space as necessary and also for libelous content; we will not publish any unsigned submissions.

Send your submissions to The Opinion office or place them either box 10 or 280.



Opposed to Gov. Pataki's proposed budget cuts to SUNY? Join UB United's free bus trip to Albany 3 a.m. Monday, Feb. 27, or write to your state legislator (see listing on page 10). United, students can make a difference!

Staying Healthy

How to keep the Buffalo winter from getting to you down

By Sam Chi, Features Editor

Take some bleak, blustery days, add to the mix poor nutrition and inadequate sleep, and then sprinkle in the monotonous strain of school, and often the results are sniffles, sneezes, coughs, fevers and body aches. Much to the chagrin of many, it's that time of year when colds and flu run rampant through the populous.

Perhaps it is little consolation, but if you happen to get sick, know that you're not alone. Nurse-Educator Elizabeth Heyden, R.N. noted that the vast majority of people coming to the Student Health Center, located in Michael Hall on the UB South Campus, are victims of the colds and flu. "We're right in the middle of cold and flu season," she said.

But getting sick is not an inevitable consequence of the season. Preventative measures like eating well, exercising regularly, managing stress, and getting proper vaccinations can go far to stave off illness.

Healthcare providers emphasize preventative measures, for there is little anyone can do to treat the disease once someone comes down with a cold or a case of the flu. Although antibiotics sometimes help, doctors and nurses can treat only the symptoms of the cold or flu. Heyden said that they usually let the disease run its course.

But, cheer up, it's not as bleak as it sounds. Ron Ingalsbe, Director of the Living Well Center, notes that people who have a positive mental attitude get sick less often and recover faster when they are sick than those who lack a positive mental attitude.

Research has shown that an optimistic outlook and things often associat-

ed with it, such as having a sense of meaning or purpose, having good relationships, and especially managing stress without negative emotions, is highly correlated with healthy immune system function. "The mind-body relationship is well accepted," Ingalsbe said.

Ingalsbe noted that stress management would be particularly germane to law students. He said that stress usually results from two sources, workload and interpersonal relationships. To deal with work related pressures, Ingalsbe recommends time and task management techniques like studying regularly and taking short breaks while you work. He also recommends

establishing a support systems of friends or family to whom you can delegate responsibilities. And if nothing else, a support system is good for kind word or a bit of encouragement now and then.

On the other hand, stress from interpersonal relationships is harder to deal with. Here, communicating better seems

avoid experiencing negative emotions," he explained. "Manage them [thereby] decreasing their duration and intensity."

Ingalsbe said that managing negative emotions requires new modes of thought. "It requires being aware of what goes on in your mind, being conscious of how you react and aware of what makes you angry." He said that negative emotions sometimes result almost automatically, out of habit. "They can become a typical way you respond to people or situations." He recommended not getting angry over things you can not control, "Why should you sacrifice joy over something out of your control?" He added that the Living Well Center offers seminars on stress management and stress reduction techniques.

Heyden agreed that there was a connection between mental attitude and immune system response. But she added that there are preventative measures like exercising regularly, good nutrition, and getting immunizations are very good ways to keep healthy.

Regular, moderate exercise helps manage stress and prevents feeling lethargic. "When you're stressed and feeling lethargic, your immunity is lowered," Heyden said.

"Eating well is very important," Heyden added. If the body does not get the nutrients it needs to produce energy, "It can break down protein to get it.

Antibodies (things in our blood that fight infection) and muscle are protein," she explained.

Ingalsbe recommends eating more vegetables, fruits, and

whole grains, as well as reducing the consumption of processed food. Further, he recommended eating at least three

See **HEALTHY** on page 9



Graphic by Lan Openshaw

People who have a positive mental attitude get sick less often and recover faster when they are sick than those who lack a positive mental attitude.

Group Spotlight: Medical-Legal Society

Society seeks to cure 'ambulance chaser' image

by Sam Chi, Features Editor

It's not frenzied like "ER," nor is it glitzy like "LA Law," but UB Law's Medical-Legal Society still deals with law and medicine. The group, established last year, struggles to fight an ambulance-chaser stereotype, student apathy and a low membership.

"This is a hot topic," said the society's president, Scott Philbin, 1L. "[It is] an evolving field policywise." But he concedes that the tort aspect seems to dominate public impressions of the group. "Whenever I mention the medical-legal society, the first thing that comes out of people's mouths is 'oh, ambulance chasers'."

The group's secretary, Linda Rouse, 1L, agreed that students "should see our society as more than a bunch of ambulance chasers."

"There are so many issues that it covers [including] ethical issues like the right to refuse treatment," she said.

"The public policy issues are immense," Philbin added, "The tort facet is just a small part. HIV privacy [rights], the Public Health Code--there are three vol-

umes of McKinney's devoted to it--these are all medical legal issues." Further, although he acknowledged that Clinton plan

was all but dead on arrival, the topic of healthcare reform is still alive and kicking. "Healthcare reform is still required," Philbin said.



already required them for dogs, but not cats." He said that some cat owners objected to having government tell them they had to vaccinate their pets.

Philbin admits to feeling somewhat frustrated at the lack of student involvement. "I'm surprised there hasn't been more interest in it," he said. The groups sent flyers out last semester. Although many law students indicated that they were interested in the group, few have attended any meetings. "We know what we want to do, but we lack the numbers to meet our goals," Philbin said.

Despite the groups best efforts, he estimated the

number of active members to be less than 10. "Some people are hesitant to join because of the ambulance chaser image," he said. But he also admits that the group got a late start last se-

mester, after many students already committed their time to other groups. Rouse added that the treasurer spot is still vacant and that the society is looking for new people with

new ideas.

Nevertheless, Philbin sees this semester as a rebuilding, transition period. He noted that the group had been more informal last year. "As it was explained to me, people got together, ordered pizza, and discussed health care policy issues." Instead, he envisions the society ultimately doing typical group-type things like sponsoring speakers and inviting panels of local experts for roundtable discussions. The society also hopes to eventually put out a journal or a newsletter.

Rouse shares Philbin's optimism and hopes to add a summer internship in the near future. She noted that links could be forged with law firms that practice in the subject area or with health care organizations' risk management or in-house counsel departments.

In addition to the speakers and journal, the group hopes to get input from medical students attending UB's medical school. "We have a med school, and as far as I know, it's a good one. It would be nice to get them involved," Rouse said.

The two were quick to point out that there are many job prospects related to medical-legal issues. Opportunities lie with hospitals and other health care providers, insurance companies, as well as with pharmaceutical companies.

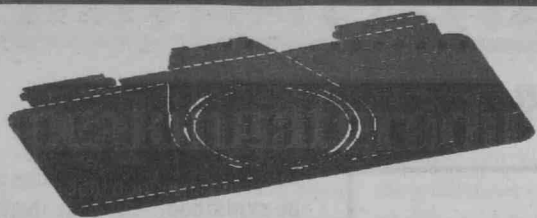
Philbin mentioned that there was great demand in the public sector also. "An entire division of the state Attorney General's office is concerned with defending state hospitals. There are also numerous opportunities with local and county governments," he said. Besides, Rouse acknowledged, that if nothing else, one could at least find work with a personal injury or medical malpractice firm.

"It affects so many aspects of law. It will really open doors," Philbin said.

"We know what we want to do, but we lack the numbers to meet our goals."

-- Scott Philbin

The Roaming Photographer



by Joseph L. Broadbent, Asst. News Editor
This week's question is...

What do you think about the Vacco controversy?

Erik Larson, 3L



"The opposition to Mr. Vacco speaking is a shameless attempt at political censorship. Are we afraid to listen to someone with whom we disagree?"

Mike Petrik, 3L

"It's hypocritical for people who champion diversity in this law school to stifle every point of view except their own."



Jamie Crolle, 3L



"I'm bothered by Vacco's decision to exclude sexual orientation as a protected class, but it's bad form to rescind the offer after acceptance. However, I wouldn't want to see our graduation marred by acts of civil disobedience."

Virgina Jacobson, 3L

"Personally, I wouldn't have desired Vacco to be the speaker because of his overall political stance, but unfortunately the time to challenge the selection has come and gone."



Cathy Brennan, 3L



"I am opposed to having Vacco come. He is part of a reactionary administration that promises to make life miserable for everyone but unattractive property holders...and I guarantee that when, or if, he comes, graduation will not be pleasant."

Until next time...

Stream of Unconsciousness

By Sam Chi

Features Editor

Microwave popcorn: a pseudo sexual experience

I've had a bad day. It wasn't the worst day I've ever had, but it's a day I don't care to repeat.

Actually, it started out rather nice. It was 8 a.m., it was snowing, the snow plows were going, and there was only a slight chance of frostbite -- in short, a beautiful morning. It was the kind of morning that just makes you want to sing Rodgers and Hammerstein lyrics. "Ooooooh-klahoma! Where the wind blows..." Well, it always worked for Letterman.

My day started to go downhill when I had this sudden craving for microwave popcorn. Yeah, microwave popcorn. Don't ask me why, but I just had to have some. Early morning, irradiated corn -- it works for me.

Besides, microwave popcorn is kinda' cool. You stick this curious, floppy thingy in the oven, add a gazillion little, itty-bitty waves (hence the name microwave), and zap, before you can say Delta Burke, the thingy stiffens and balloons to twice its size. Magic, right before your very eyes. Aside from its Freudian connotations, microwave popcorn is good stuff.

To be honest, I'm usually not a big popcorn freak, but I guess from time to time everybody craves things. Julius Caesar craved power and world domination. Paris craved Helen, and even started a war for her. Catherine the Great craved the ultimate sexual experience. Next to these, my meager craving for popcorn seems silly and trifling; but hey, you gotta start someplace.

Nevertheless, no matter how silly or even trifling, I discovered cravings can sometimes be bad. After all, Caesar, obviously unaware of the Ides, was bumped off on the Senate floor. Paris's Troy, duped by a wooden horse, was sacked, pillaged and forced to make condoms. Tragedy even struck the Russian Empire, Poor Catherine was impaled by a horse's member. She should have stuck with microwave popcorn.



Of course, I didn't heed these lessons of history until it was too late. Things were going great -- here a pop, there a pop, everywhere a pop, pop -- until I realized that Orville Reddenbacher bears an uncanny resemblance to Schlegel. Gosh, if you give the popcorn dude hair extensions, you won't be able to tell the difference. I thought I could write one of those nifty separated-at-birth columns. Orville -- John Henry.

Actually, maybe they're the same person. Have you ever seen them in the same room at the same time? Think about it.

I was amazed and preoccupied by this discovery, so much so that I'm still not quite sure what happened next. All I remember is that the oven went pop, pop, and then fizz. I was left pondering what sort of relief this is as smoke poured out and billowed into the room.

It's acrid, nasty smoke, accompanied by a smell that could wake the dead. It's the kind of stuff that lingers despite all efforts to get rid of it. I opened windows, turned on fans, I even tried an exorcism. But all my efforts were in vain. The only good thing that came of it was that it

really woke me up. Who needs coffee? Enjoy the aroma of burnt popcorn. It'll kick you in the pants and give you that perky, "I want to get out of the house to vomit" feeling.

The rest of the day actually wasn't so bad, but it couldn't help but be overshadowed by what happened first thing in the morning. The popcorn incident set the tone for the day. People I didn't know were coming up to me and offering their condolences. Some offered advice on how to cope with the tragic and traumatic event. They told me my life must go on. Some even offered me butter and salt.

The only thing that kept this day from being a total pooch-screw was the fact that no golf clubs were involved. Yes, bad days come and go, but to really have a horrendous day, you need a seven-iron. Just ask Gerald Ford, George Bush, and Bill Clinton.

A week ago the presidential trio were participants in a celebrity golf tournament in California. Bush and Ford hit spectators. Clinton just hit bad. As the Buffalo News put it, Bush's second shot bounced off a tree and hit an old lady on the bridge of her nose. She broke her glasses, bleed heavily, and required 10 stitches. Later in the day, Bush clipped yet another spectator, but this time the former President didn't draw blood. The man, wounded in the leg, had only minor injuries.

Ford, hit a tee shot that got away from him but made it to a spectator's finger. That alone may not have been that bad, except that the finger was still attached to the spectator. The woman didn't seem that traumatized by the incident. Clinton, to his credit, didn't hit anyone. But his errant shots flew all over the place, and like his policy agendas, missed their marks by wide margins.

Anyway, a lessor editor would have dismissed this outing as a bad day. But, not this intrepid features editor.

Instead, it evinces an insidious Republican conspiracy to balance the budget by knocking off social security recipients. Fewer recipients, fewer dollars go out. The fact that no one died is a minor detail. Heck, maybe the tournament had lots of burnt popcorn around.

Healthy, Healthy, Healthy, continued from page 7

regular meals, perhaps even four to five small meals. Skipping meals is not a good practice, "Too much times between meals encourages the body to store fat," he said. "Skipping could sometimes make you fatter."

Immunizations, especially the so called "flu shot," are only useful if received prior to getting sick. Immunizations work by introducing dead or weakened germs into the body. The body then produces antibodies to fight the germs.

One should get the flu shot in November or December, at the beginning of the cold and flu season. Although there is an influenza vaccine, there is no vaccine for the common cold. Heyden said that because there are so many types of cold viruses and that they change so quickly, it is impossible to vaccinate against all of the strains.

But immunizations and good nutrition aren't the

only things that help to ensure health. Heyden recommends getting regular physical checkups. Also, washing your hands and covering your mouth when you sneeze or cough helps prevent the spread of infections. "Colds and flu are spread by airborne droplets," Heyden said. "Not breathing them in is a good idea."

Further, little things like getting adequate amounts of sleep and dressing correctly when you go outside helps to keep you healthy. Experts say that drastic changes in temperature and other environmental conditions can weaken your immune system. They recommend dressing in layers and using a hat and a scarf to stay warm when the mercury drops.

Although nothing will make you invulnerable to germs, following the sage advice of experts can help keep your semester largely free from illness.

Dean Boyer recounts last semester's trip to Poland

by Karen A. Bailey, Reporter

Law school Dean Barry Boyer spent last semester on sabbatical at Jagiellonian University, in Krakow, Poland.

During that time he attended an environmental symposium and witnessed the launching of UB Law's first student exchange program in Poland.

The exchange program's initial focus on human rights reflects the two schools' mutual interest in that area. Ten UB Law students and two faculty members traveled to Jagiellonian to participate in a program featuring human rights lecturers. Jagiellonian law students and faculty will travel to UB later on this semester.

"The idea for the program grew out of a prior relationship between UB and Jagiellonian," Boyer said. UB Law professor Isabel Marcus and Jagiellonian's Halina Neic participated in a faculty exchange program and thought that students would also benefit from a similar project. Professors Marcus and Virginia Leary administer the program at UB.

Boyer emphasized that "the particular exchange model is unique because most law school exchange programs follow the classic semester or summer abroad approach." He cited Sasakawa, a Japanese foundation involved in Eastern Europe, as central to creating and fostering the model. This approach allows "people interested in similar issues to collaborate and is cheaper for students," he explained.

According to the dean, students who trav-



Dean Barry Boyer

eled to Poland are collaborating with Jagiellonian law students on eleven research projects. Currently, the UB law students keep in touch with their research partners via electronic mail and a satellite link.

Despite impending budget cuts, Boyer hopes to continue the program and explained that focus on funding from outside sources will now be necessary. He emphasized that the program "is a promising model which equips students to function in an increasingly global

society, whether or not they specifically intend to practice international law."

Boyer said the environmental symposium provided an important opportunity to satisfy his curiosity about the effects of decades of socialism on Poland's environment. He was particularly concerned with exploring the notion that Poland is an "environmental wasteland." He found, instead, that "the iron and steel industries which once polluted Poland have been shaken out by technical oversight and market forces."

According to the dean, local environmental initiatives and foreign aid have also played a role in this phenomenon.

He exclaimed surprise that "in some ways Poland is a bit ahead in coming up with solutions to address pollution." For example, he explained that Polish polluters are required to contribute to a fund for environmental investments. He noted that although the high fee is not a powerful incentive against pollution, it is an innovative attempt to address the problem.

Boyer said use of such market mechanisms is Poland's general approach, in light of the country's concern about its economy. He explained that in the United States "we have the luxury of arguing about whether the economy should take precedence over the environment or vice-versa."

However, because Poland's transitional economy is fragile, "signing onto environmental agreements can have a major economic

impact, so the economy is top priority," he added.

"Currently, Poland is trying to privatize its public sector and wants very much to be integrated into the European Economic Community (ECC)," the dean explained.

He emphasized, however, that the sentiment isn't necessarily mutual because of Poland's potential to compete. "Poland never collectivized its agriculture ...so small to medium farms in Poland could effectively provide competitive prices in an unregulated market," he explained. Polish products that come from an industrial tradition of low wage scales could also be a source of serious competition on the market, he said.

Boyer, who specializes in environmental and administrative law, presented a paper entitled "Making Regulatory Analysis Work." "Poles were very interested in finding out how agencies in the United States address environmental problems," he said.

He explained that Polish attendees were provided with an opportunity to communicate directly with the EPA via a satellite link.

The bilingual symposium, sponsored by the U.S. Consulate in Krakow was well attended by both Americans and Poles, the dean said. The dean is currently working with the Buffalo Law Review on publishing the results of the symposium.

According to the dean, the opportunity to do some more writing was central to his decision to go on sabbatical.

SBA Meeting, continued from page 3

plaints from some of the students about one aspect of the current fund drive.

BPILP has posted a large list on the 1st floor of O'Brian Hall with the names of all law students, with a spot for each student to sign his or her name. If a student donates to BPILP, they are given a magic marker and they can sign their name in the appropriate spot.

Hamboussi said the students complained that they cannot afford to donate and they are embarrassed by having their names on the wall.

Pundurs said that the reason for posting the names wasn't to embarrass any student, but to create an incentive and to recognize those who chose to support the organization. She further said that she couldn't make the decision to take the list down, since the organization as a whole voted to put it up. She suggested that if anyone could not afford to donate, that if they

donated the penny that was distributed to each student in their mailboxes to promote the fundraising drive, they will permit that person to sign the list.

Rodriguez said that she had heard similar complaints and that perhaps the fund drive could also be conducted in the student union to reach more students. Pundurs said she would look into that.

Class Director John Leifert, 2L, said some of the people who spoke to him considered placing the names of law students on the wall to be harassment.

Class Director Rob Kitson, 3L, said he felt BPILP was doing an extraordinary job and that he had not heard any such complaints.

Pundurs said that if anyone truly felt harassed that they take their complaints directly to BPILP.



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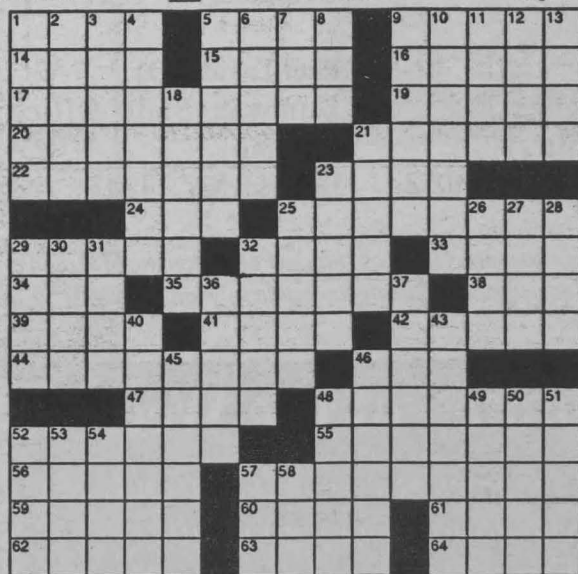
Back by popular demand: Crossword Mania!

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Edited by Stan Chess

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- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 41 Beyond a doubt | 3 Anacin alternative | 30 Outer: Prefix |
| 1 Collars | 42 High as | 4 Like most | 31 Sentence essential |
| 5 Just one of those things | 44 Rd. named for a West Virginia senator? | 5 "The Rose of" | 32 Movie-theater litter |
| 9 Sing softly | 46 Peter Arnet's employer | 6 Full nelson and others | 36 Cosmetics name |
| 14 Med. sch. subj. | 47 Wishes one hadn't | 7 wet (mistaken) | 37 In a sensible way |
| 15 Romeo or Juliet | 48 Believers in the Almighty | 8 Crumpets complement | 40 Exposes to the atmosphere |
| 16 Cliff protrusion | 52 Mexicali munchie | 9 Bordeaux wine | 43 Deli delectables |
| 17 Rd. named for an actress? | 55 Fashion designer of note | 10 Addressed abrasively | 45 Saddam Hussein and King Hussein |
| 19 Fend off | 56 Perform on the soapbox | 11 Poems of devotion | 46 Ski lodge |
| 20 Deep green | 57 Rd. named for a stooge? | 12 Cruel dude | 48 Field-goal value |
| 21 Nixon's Six | 59 Unsafe at Any Speed author | 13 Lets touch them | 49 Franklin (heating device) |
| 22 Mocks | 60 Pulitzer Prize winner of 1958 | 18 Nag | 50 It's sometimes thrown in |
| 23 Writer Silverstein | 61 "Did you ___?" | 21 Tierra del Fuego co-owner | 51 Traffic tie-up |
| 24 Not sm. | 62 Actress Sharon | 23 "___, Rattle and Roll" | 52 Chinese secret society |
| 25 Rd. named for a ballplayer? | 63 Excite | 25 Pooped | 53 Sea east of the Caspian |
| 29 River | 64 Hawk | 26 Sherpa sighting, perhaps | 54 Assured of success |
| embankment | DOWN | 27 Agonize | 57 Cornfield cry |
| 32 Assurance from Good Housekeeping | 1 Sporting one's birt' 'y suit | 28 As soon as | 58 "That's disgusting!" |
| 33 Blue Velvet star | 2 "W. in ___" | 29 Pinocchio, for one | |
| 34 Rapper Vanilla | | | |
| 35 Studio do-overs | | | |
| 38 Gumshoe | | | |
| 39 Disposable-razor brand | | | |



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See answers on page 11

BRIEFS

Poll: 70% of lawyers say Simpson will walk

A poll commissioned by the National Law Journal revealed that 70 percent of the nation's attorneys are convinced that O.J. Simpson will not be convicted of killing his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman. This is up 10 percent from five months ago.

If Simpson is convicted, 37 percent of lawyers are of the opinion that Judge Lance Ito has committed reversible error, and 69 percent believe that the whole spectacle has diminished respect for the legal system.

Other questions asked in the poll confirmed that 35 percent of the nation's lawyers believe that Simpson should take the stand and testify in his own behalf, while 44 percent believe that it would be a bad move for Simpson. Judge Ito is seen by 67 percent of those surveyed as being in control of his courtroom, and 73 percent say he has not favored either side.

Rating the prosecution and defense teams, 18 percent said that the state is doing an excellent job, while 15 percent believed that the defense team is deserving of an excellent ranking. Johnnie Cochran was rated the best on the defense "dream team" by 31 percent of the respondents, while Marcia Clark was awarded the honor by 25 percent.

Source: National Law Journal, Feb. 27, 1995.

Point of Information !

Q: What are the addresses of our state Senators and Legislators?

A: Here they are:

Governor

Honorable George E. Pataki
Executive Chamber
State Capitol
Albany NY 12224
Phone: (518) 474-7516
Fax: (518) 474-1513

New York State Senators:

Anthony R. Nanula (D)
65 Court Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Mary Lou Rath (R)
5500 Main Street (Suite 260)
Williamsville, NY 14221

William Stachowski (D)
125 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14203

Dale M. Volker (R)
620 Main Street
East Aurora, NY 14052

New York State Assembly Members

Richard R. Anderson (R)
5555 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221

Arthur O. Eve (D)
1377 Fillmore Ave
Buffalo, NY 14221

Sandra Lee Wirth (R)
1500 Union Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

Sam Hoyt (D)
Donovan State Office Building
Buffalo, NY 14203

Francis J. Pordum (D)
3812 South Park Ave.
Blasdell, NY 14219

Thomas M. Reynolds (R)
65 Court Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Robin L. Schimminger (D)
3514 Delaware Ave.
Kenmore, NY 14217

Paul Tokasz (D)
Donovan State Office Building
Buffalo, NY 14203

Place your questions in box #280 c/o Peter Zummo, Managing Editor. Write us because inquiring law students want to know!

"Quote" of the Week

"...A commitment is a commitment and faculty who do not make a good faith effort to meet their collectively self-imposed grading deadline set a poor example for students."

-- Professor Binder, talking about the grade deadline.

Law group teaches highschool students about dating violence

by Mike Chase, Asst. Features Editor

The Domestic Violence Task Force travelled to Clarence Central High School on Friday, Feb. 17 to teach students about dating violence. Their goal was to make the students aware of just what types of abuse there are, and to encourage those in abusive relationships, or their friends, to seek help.

Caroline Hooper, Len Opanashuk, and Jen Vick, all first-year law students, co-chaired the Education Committee of the Task Force. The program which they developed represents the first time the Task Force has ever gone into a high school to educate students. Their program was adapted from one sup-

plied by the group Alternatives for Battered Women, based in Rochester. Vick, who also volunteers for that group, brought the program to Buffalo.

The trio spent the day speaking with kids in four classes, ranging from ninth through 12th grades. They spoke about personal experiences with dating

violence and presented some case studies in order to get the students thinking about different types of abusive relationships. The team also discussed emotional, physical, and sexual abuse and the different forms that those might take. They tried to dispel many of the myths surrounding dating violence and gave kids ideas about how to speak to their

friends when their concerns are aroused and when to take their worries to parents or the police. "You could literally be saving a life," explained Opanashuk to an attentive audience of ninth graders.

The three also distributed pamphlets to the students which contained more information about domestic violence, about the group, and about the many other organizations which offer help. Hooper, Opanashuk, and Vick then stayed at the school for over an hour in the guidance counselors' office answering students' questions one-on-one.

The Task Force will return to Clarence Central High School the next two Fridays to get their message out to more kids and to further develop this new program. To find out more information about the Domestic Violence Task Force, call 645-2782 or stop by their office in Room 602.

"You could literally be saving a life."
-- Len Opanashuk

Late grades, continued from page 3

of exams, but both goals can be achieved within a reasonable time framework."

While Sheffer said that he was too new to the school to have a fair judgment on whether late grades are a problem, he said the issue was "a reasonable issue for a joint faculty-student task force to research and to recommend needed revisions."

He added: "This would not need to be a long-term effort, I suspect."

Of the 10 grades that are still not in, seven are courses and three are seminars. The grades that have not yet been turned in to A&R include: Constitutional Law, section B, Professor Kannar; Corporations, Professor Steinfeld; Evidence*, Professor Ewing; Law Reform through Legis-

lation*, Professor Joyce; Estate & Gift Tax, Professor Joyce; Administrative Law, Professor Meidinger; Corporate Tax*, Professor Battaglia; New York Home Rule, Professor Hyman; Poverty & the Law, Professor Munger; and International Labor Law*, Professor Leary. (A "*" means that only a partial list of graduating seniors was submitted.)

Waltz said Joyce's grades were delayed because of a death in the family. She also said Meidinger's grades will be in "any day now." She explained that Meidinger's grades were late because he had an overloaded course load last semester (i.e., taught an extra section) and also had to take care of some business in Washington, D.C.

Waltz said she did not know about the circumstances of any of the other professors who submitted late grades. None of the professors who were late with their grades replied to The Opinion's questionnaire, which was dated Feb. 14 and was due back Feb. 20.

Waltz explained that sometimes professors of seminars give students extensions for their papers which could account for the delay. She admitted that seminar professors could still post the grades of those students who submitted their papers in on time.

Waltz said that transcripts with Fall semester grades won't be available until mid-March.

Death Penalty, continued from page 1

For the last two months, legislators have been hammering out the wording of the bill to overcome constitutional challenges and to make the bill "as strong as possible." The bill is currently in the final drafting stage and may be changed in some respects.

The last execution in New York occurred in 1963 by electrocution. The Court of Appeals struck down the death penalty in 1977. Since then, legislation to restore the death penalty has passed the Legislature every year, only to be vetoed on each occasion.

"It's about time we did something about the soaring murder rate," said State Senator Dale Volker, who has co-sponsored death penalty legislation since 1977. He added that it was about time the death penalty was brought back.

The Legislature is off for Presidents' Week, but will most likely vote on the final bill next week. The bill is expected to pass easily. Even if the bill is passed when expected, it might be a few years before the first execution under the law due to legal challenges being mounted by death penalty opponents.

Jessup competes in Boston



1995 Jessup International Moot Court Team. From l-r: seated, Gina DiGioia, 2l, Melissa Tocha, 2l, back row, coach Peter Beadle, 2l, Scott Wich, 2l, William T. Gargen, 2l, and coach Nicole Johnson, 2l. Not pictured: Victor Bobet, 3l. The team competed in Boston on Feb. 11-12 at the Northeast Regional Competition against NYU, Widener U., New England School of Law, and Southern New England School of Law.

Farrell, continued from page 3

targets include a new Litigation Center, a Family Law Center, and funding for faculty projects. Increased library funding and financial aid, "which may be more important now given the future budget cutbacks," are also under consideration.

Farrell, who has a master's degree in education from the University of Rochester, also has a UB Law connection: his brother, Michael Farrell, is a 1987 graduate of the school.

"In this business, it helps if you have a personal connection to the school, if you really believe in what you are doing," he said. Tom Farrell said he believes in UB Law and hopes to play a significant part in securing its financial future.

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will make
you cry!
Coming
soon.**

Consider this your only warning!

The Docket

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

BPLIP Annual Fund Drive: Outside Room 106

Every \$5 donated to BPLIP will provide one hour of legal services to someone who would otherwise not receive any.

11:00 a.m.

Commencement Committee Meeting: Room 207

All 3L's Welcome

5:00 p.m.

Film: "The Business of America," showing in Room 108.

A chronicle of changing expectations and realities in industrial America. Sponsored by LAELA

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Phi Alpha Delta Party: at Mickey Ratts, Minnesota and Main St., Buffalo. Free to PAD members.

6:00 p.m.

Law School Major Gifts Dean's Dinner

At Olivers Restaurant, Delaware Ave., Buffalo

Call Pat Warrington at 645-2107 for information

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24

Last day to purchase tickets for the Barrister's Ball.

Tickets are \$20 per person. See any SBA Class Director, or go to the SBA Office.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

BPLIP Annual Fund Drive: Outside Room 106 Last Day!!

Your donation helps BPLIP provide for summer internships.

Donate \$5 or a button, \$10 for a travel mug, \$20 for a T-shirt or

\$50 for 2 shirts or all 3 items.

9:00 p.m. - 2:30 a.m.

SALSA NIGHT: at the Student Union. \$3. or \$2 with a non-perishable food item. Sponsored by LALSA. Purchase one of five Marino Bar Review \$200 discounts for \$75.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25

7:00 p.m.

BLSA Annual Fashion/Cultural Show. Student Union Theater. Featuring the Second Annual Mr. BSU Contest. \$5. Admission.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27

3:00 a.m.

Free busses depart for Albany. UB UNITED protest of Gov. Pataki's proposed budget cuts. Busses leave from the Student Union.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28

6:30 p.m.

Farmworker Task Force meeting. Discussion of Outreach activities and Farmworker Legal Services, with Jim Schmidt. National Lawyers Guild offices, O'Brian Hall, first floor.

BPLIP Summer Internships. Today is the deadline for applications. Applications are in the F&A draw in Room 106. There will be six \$2,000 grants.

Petitions for election to University Council Student Representative are available in the SBA office and are due at the undergraduate SA on March 2 at 4 p.m. Questions can be directed to the SA at 645-2950.

Advertise for free on the Docket!

Include this coupon with your ad request!

Friday, Feb. 24, is the last day to buy tickets for the Barrister Ball. Contact your SBA rep to purchase your ticket.

SATURDAY MARCH 4

1:45 p.m.

End of the Year Party, for members of the Moot Court Board Location TBA. Elections for executive board positions will be held.

6:00 p.m.

The Barrister's Ball. At the Buffalo Hilton.

MONDAY MARCH 6

3:30 p.m.

Dennis Kitchen, Esq. speaks on "The Ins and Outs of Solo Practice" Room 406. Sponsored by the CLS.

UPCOMING

Prof. Frank Upham of NYU Law School will be speaking at 3:30 p.m. on March 30. An expert on Japanese law and society, he will discuss the cultural origins of the Japanese regulatory styler and its impact on international trade relations. Please indicate if you plan to attend the lecture by leaving a note in box 349.

Ad

Age 7, 1982



Age 18, 1993



Elizabeth Suto.

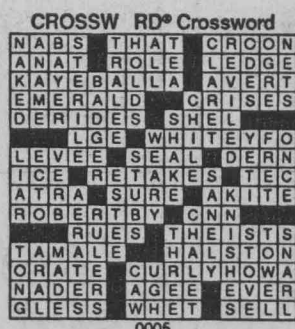
Killed by a drunk driver on February 27, 1994, on Bell Blvd. in Cedar Park, Texas.

If you don't stop your friend from driving drunk, who will? Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

U.S. Department of Transportation

Answers to crossword mania!



Opinion Personals!

P. How many more to go? --E

THREE!!!!!! -- p

Sam, Soon she'll be all yours!

Ben, Thanks for the pizza! It helped. -- Staff

Popcorn anyone?

If you're reading this, thank you. -- the anti-establishment

Rambling Madman coming soon!

Don't just sit there like a vegetable, submit something for the Onion.

Happy Birthday to me!

I love you Jennie -- Evan

P. I still want to buy a vacuum, don't you? G.

M. These are hectic, lonely times, but soon they'll be over and we'll be united forever in love and friendship. All my love. -- Steven

S. Congratulations on the job L.

I love you, Sue -- Peter

We don't get paid enough for this shit!

Satan, where are you when we need you?

Personals are FREE!!! Place your personals in box #10 and we might print it.

BAR/BRI BULLETIN

DATES TO REMEMBER

DAY/DATE

EVENT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Lecture: MPRE REVIEW (Tape Lecture)
Location: ROOM 106
Time: 10AM - 2PM
Tuition: FREE for BAR/BRI enrollees

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

MULTISTATE PROFESSIONAL
RESPONSIBILITY EXAM (MPRE)

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

- 1) 1995 BOOK DISTRIBUTION BEGINS
- 2) CLASS OF '95 - \$1425 NY TUITION ENDS
(\$1500 tuition until April 12)
- 3) CLASS OF '96 - \$1395 NY TUITION ENDS
(\$1425 tuition until April 12)

NOTE: CLASS OF '97 & '98 - \$1395 NY TUITION CONTINUES UNTIL APRIL 12
FULL NY TUITION \$1550

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

LAST DAY FOR: 1) BOOK PICK-UP
2) DISCOUNTED TUITION

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

FILING PERIOD BEGINS FOR
JULY 1995 NY BAR EXAM

MONDAY, MAY 22

NY COURSE BEGINS AT LIVE LOCATION

SATURDAY, MAY 27

FILING PERIOD ENDS FOR
JULY 1995 NY BAR EXAM

TUESDAY, MAY 30

NY COURSE BEGINS AT TAPE LOCATIONS

BAR/BRI
BAR REVIEW